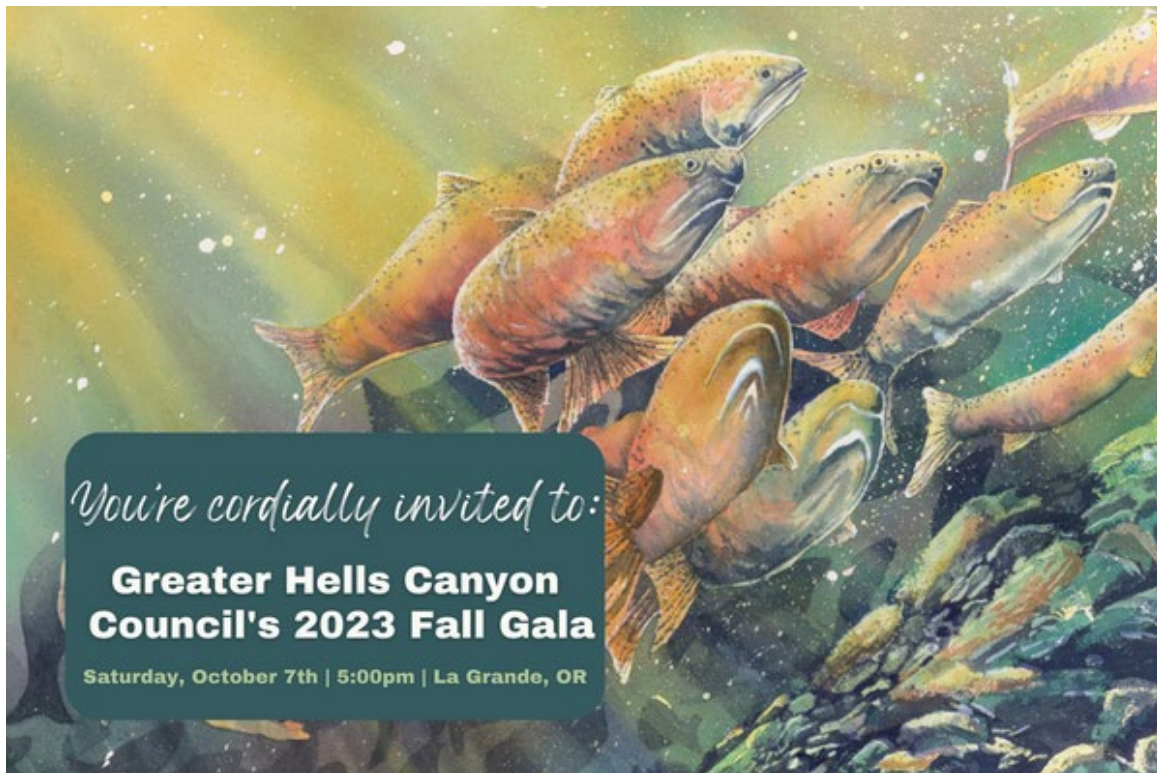




## Hells Bells - September 2023



*You're cordially invited to:*

**Greater Hells Canyon  
Council's 2023 Fall Gala**

Saturday, October 7th | 5:00pm | La Grande, OR

## GHCC's Annual Fall Gala in La Grande

GHCC's 2023 Annual Fall Gala & Auction will be on October 7th in La Grande. Join us for an evening of merriment, including dining on locally sourced foods, socializing with neighbors, and chatting up GHCC staff and board. We are thrilled to share exciting program updates on our efforts to protect, connect and restore this spectacular region, including a sneak peek at our new [Wild Blues AiR \(Artist in Residence\) Program](#). We hope to see you there!

**Event details:**

Saturday, October 7 at 5pm

Catholic Church Parish Hall in La Grande, Oregon

[Click for more event details](#)

Reserve Your Ticket

This year's Gala includes a [Golden Raffle](#). We sell just 99 tickets at \$100 each. The winner can select from one of the four featured auction prizes: A 5-night rafting trip on the Lower Salmon River, a 3-night



*Good Bear Ranch in the Elkhorn Mountains. A 3-night stay here is one of the four auction prizes in the Golden Raffle.*

stay at Good Bear Ranch in the Elkhorn Mountains outside of Baker City, a 4-night stay at a Bend vacation home, or a 3-night stay at Barking Mad Farm in Enterprise at the foot of the Wallowa Mountains.

Purchase Golden Raffle Tickets

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## BMT Event Series and Survey

The BMT Fall Event Series is in full swing! These events – held throughout the region – are introducing trail users and interested community members of all kinds to plan a trip (from a day hike to all 530+ miles!) on the Blue Mountains Trail. Make plans to attend an event near you.

### Upcoming Events:

Portland | Lucky Lab Brew Pub | October 17th @ 5:30-7pm

Bend | Mountain Supply | October 24th @ 6:30pm

Joseph | Wallowology | November 3 @ 7:00pm

Boise | Idaho Mountain Touring | November 15th @ 6pm

La Grande | Eastern Oregon University | November Date + Time TBD

Walla Walla | Location TBD | November Date + Time TBD

The Blue Mountains Trail survey is live! Please take 5 minutes and [fill out this survey](#) – it will provide our team with valuable feedback that will inform our future trail planning efforts.





## Webcast: The Future of Eastern Oregon Forests

Join GHCC and Oregon Wild for a webinar on Wednesday, October 4th at 6pm for a virtual presentation by Dr. David Mildrexler, the Systems Ecologist at Eastern Oregon Legacy Lands. Dr. Mildrexler will discuss the global importance of the Blue Mountains, and will share his research on the importance of the region with a special focus on wildlife, water, and climate.

RSVP



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## Blue Mountains Forest Planning Virtual Open House - October 10th

The Forest Service has been holding a number of in-person open house meetings on the Blue Mountain Forest Plan Revisions, mostly in smaller/rural communities around the region. This virtual open house is a great opportunity for *anyone* who uses Blue Mountain Forests (regardless of where you live) to get a status update and give some feedback on places and issues that are important to you. We highly encourage anyone who is able to attend this event to do so! It runs from 4-7pm (come when you can, but earlier is probably better) at this link: <https://usfs.zoomgov.com/j/1611024130#success>

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## Refugia of the Blue Mountains

We are thrilled to share that the 2023 Annual Fall Gala will include the launch of our new [Wild Blues AiR \(Artist in Residence\) Program](#) with an exhibit "Refugia of the Blue Mountains" featuring art by Robin Coen and writing by Marina Richie. Prints will be available for purchase at the event. [Learn more about this inaugural artist team and their inspiration.](#)





"Summit Lake" from "Refugia of the Blue Mountains" exhibit. Art by Robin Coen.

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## Other News We're Following...

[The long way: Riley Gill joins a handful of hikers who have completed Northeast Oregon's Blue Mountains Trail.](#)

[Banished to a Remote Idaho Valley, Beavers Created a Lush Wetland](#)

[We Thought We Were Saving the Planet, but We Were Planting a Time Bomb](#)

[The West's overlooked rainforests can address climate change](#)

[Wildlife-hunting contests banned on public land, Oregon commission decides](#)

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## Interested in Volunteering with GHCC?

There are many ways to volunteer with GHCC and the Blue Mountains Trail. We are always thrilled to work with our members, supporters, and fellow conservation advocates. We are offering some new and exciting opportunities for you to join us to connect, protect, and restore the Greater Hells Canyon Region.

If you are interested in volunteering with us, be it at a trail stewardship event, doing wildlife and wilderness surveys, monitoring and community science projects, or joining us on a GHCC-led outing, we've created a survey that will help us know where to direct you and which opportunities to send your way. Completing this survey should take 5 minutes or less of your time. Thank you — we look forward to spending time with you!

[GHCC Volunteer Survey](#)

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GHCC works to protect, connect, and restore the lands, waters, native species, and climate resiliency of the ecologically magnificent Greater Hells Canyon Region.

We have a big vision for the future of the Greater Hells Canyon Region, and your support is critical to making it happen. [Join us!](#)  
- Emily Cain, GHCC Executive Director

**By joining GHCC's River Runner program for \$10/month or more, we'll include a special gift celebrating GHCC and the Greater Hells Canyon Region.**

[Find out more here, and sign up today!](#)

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